

THE PEOPLE OF KOREA.

If my young friends will take the trouble to look in the eastern part of the map of Asia they will there see China holding on to a piece of land with her left hand to keep it from falling into the sea. Have you found it? Well, that is Korca. If China should let go it would fall into the waters of the Yellow Sea and thus become an island instead of a peninsula. You see it is not a very large country, only about as large as the State of Minnesota, but it is quite full of people, having about one-sixth as many as we have in the United States.

This country was formerly called Chosen, which means "fresh morning" or Land of the "Morning Calm" because it is so far east. It is also called the Hermit Nation, because like an oyster it has kept its doors so tightly shut that no foreigners could get in, and if by accident any persons were cast upon its shores they were never allowed to leave the country.

Many years ago some Dutch sailors were shipwrecked and kept there eight years, and were so homesick that they were always watching for an opportunity to get away. So one day finding a boat they entered it and escaped. They found their way to Japan and from there they were sent home. What strange things they had to tell of the people, their customs and manners!

One thing seems very strange to us. They do not allow the women to go out in the daytime, but some time in the evening they ring a bell when all the men and boys have to hurry home as fast as they can until not one is seen on the streets, and then the women and girls go out to walk.

I have not time to tell more of their strange ways and habits, but you must read for yourselves. I want to tell you, however, that it is no longer a hermit land, for a few years ago they opened their doors and now they will allow us to visit them the same as other nations.

You will be glad to know that the present king, Bo Kei Ju, desires to be friendly

with other nations and has aided the missionaries in their work. You will also be glad to know that some of the Koreans have already become Christians and are calling to us to come and help them win their land for Christ. Within the last two years several missionaries have heard this call and have gone to this far-away land to declare to them the "good tidings" of great joy which you remember the angel said should be unto all people.

Dear children, will you not pray for the king and His people and the dear missionaries who have gone to carry the means of healing for their bodies at the same time they tell them the old, old story of Jesus and his love?—*R. D. J. In Little Missionary.*

A POOR LITTLE MAMMA!

We have many pupils in Zenanas who were once in the Allahabad school. One of the latest to take up the cares and responsibilities of Zenana life is "Kiron," a girl of thirteen. She came to school until her marriage a few months ago, and now one of our ladies teaches her in her new home. Her husband was a widower, with a boy fourteen years old and a girl of ten or twelve years, both learning with us, but not allowed to come to our school. The girl is very disorderly, her clothes always awry and her hair standing out like a brush.

Kiron is, in appearance, the reverse. I never saw her with soiled clothes or uncombed hair. Last week when the lady went to teach the two, Karon came first, looking neat as ever, and soon the little daughter followed, in her usual state, Kiron looked up from her book and said, in a distressed tone, "Do look at that child; twice I have brushed her hair and arranged her dress, but it does no good!"

The teacher could scarce repress a smile at the serious words and expression of face, but at heart she felt very sad that thus early, care and anxiety had come to one she had so lately known only as full of the careless joyousness of child-life.—*Missionary Link.*